

## **Continuing Education Rule Changes Will Make Life Easier for Licensees**

Peggy Sellers Benson, RN, MSHA, MSN, NE-BC

I am pleased to announce that the Board is moving forward with changes to the rules for Continuing Education (CE), which will make the process clearer and simpler for all Alabama nurses.

First, let me be clear that the substance of what is allowable for CE credit will not change very much at all. These rule changes are not intended to be more restrictive. They will clear up confusion and make things much easier for licensees, by clarifying what courses and providers are allowable. Going forward, we believe these rules will eliminate many of the errors and mistakes that nurses make as they work to satisfy their required 24 contact hours per renewal period.

Another major innovation we will be implementing allows nurses to upload documentation to their individual CE record from non-Board-approved, but still allowable, CE providers. This will greatly reduce the burden on nurses to keep up with the actual certificates and other documentation during the two years between renewals.

Again, we are very pleased with the changes and think that all of our licensees will be just as pleased when they are fully implemented. Please feel free to review the proposed rules on the ABN website, [www.abn.alabama.gov](http://www.abn.alabama.gov), and get familiar with the new world of CE in Alabama.